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BREWER, JOHN M. *Oral English*. Boston: Ginn & Co.

Oral English, by John M. Brewer, embodies the very latest in the teaching of oral English. It gives evidence of a keen appreciation of what modern English demands; it is practical. The author evidently realizes that our modern needs are not the imitation of the old masterpieces with their characteristic elocutionary style, but the development of direct, effective speaking that is convincing and to the point. The topics suggested are vital and interesting and could be used for written themes as well as for oral. The section dealing with argumentation and parliamentary law is very helpful to literary societies and debating classes.

FULTON, M. G. *Southern Life in Southern Literature*. Boston: Ginn & Co.

Southern Life in Southern Literature should be an acceptable book for supplementary reading in any high school, but particularly in the South, where its historical element would naturally make the greatest appeal and would serve as an excellent approach to the book. The author's emphasis on the "life and character," which is well placed, seems to have especial bearing on Parts I and II, "The Old South in Literature" and "Poetry of the Civil War." As a whole, the book is well organized, satisfactory in the point of notes, both explanatory and biographical, and commendable for the selection of subject-matter.

Atlantic Classics. Atlantic Monthly Co.

The book is a collection of sixteen essays selected from the *Atlantic Monthly*. The essays are representative both as to types and to authors. The selection will be very useful to teachers who have wished to offer courses in magazine exposition, but have found the subscribing for magazines impractical.

MILLER, E. J. *English Literature, A Guide to the Best Reading*. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott & Co.

Mr. Miller's *English Literature* is particularly strong in the number and quality of its quotations and selections from the *Great Masterpieces*. The critical comment is good in the main, though at times it seems more positive and final than is necessary for the guidance of the young.

The book, moreover, is strictly up to the minute in its content, the epilogue having been added since the declaration of war against Germany. All the great and near-great moderns get honorable mention, Wells, Shaw, and the rest, so that the student is in no danger of regarding *this* literature as ancient history. The illustrations, copies of portraits, facsimiles of first editions, and manuscript pages add much to the general value of the volume.